

## II. MAKING A FOIA REQUEST

1. Names, addresses, and telephone numbers of all individual agency components that receive FOIA requests.

For the names, addresses, and telephone numbers, visit our Web site at [http://www.usdoj.gov/oip/04\\_4.html](http://www.usdoj.gov/oip/04_4.html).

2. Brief description of why some requests are not granted and an overview of certain general categories of the agency's records to which the FOIA exemptions apply.

The Department of Justice is the Executive Branch's principle law enforcement authority. As such, the records maintained by the Department of Justice often involve law enforcement matters. Because law enforcement records are of such interest to subjects of investigation, victims of crime, and the public at large, these records are often requested under the Freedom of Information Act. The Department of Justice invokes the FOIA's two privacy exemptions more than the rest of the exemptions combined to prevent unwarranted injury to the privacy interests of individuals mentioned in law enforcement records. The Department of Justice also commonly protects the identities of confidential informants who provide information to investigators and also protects information about Departmental enforcement activities the release of which would risk circumvention of the law. In the general litigation context, the Department of Justice protects information protected by the civil discovery privileges.

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